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NPIC/IEG

11 JUNE 1981

SPECIAL PURPOSE TRAILERS
VOLGOGRAD AND SVERDLOVSK, USSR

1. (TSR) SIGNIFICANCE: SPECIAL PURPOSE TRAILERS ARE PROBABLY USED TO CONCEAL SOVIET GROUND FORCE WEAPONS DURING THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY PRODUCTION PHASE.
2. (TSR) REMARKS: TWO SIZES OF SPECIAL-PURPOSE TRAILERS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AT SEVERAL SOVIET GROUND FORCE WEAPONS PRODUCTION PLANTS AND TEST FACILITIES. THESE TRAILERS ARE PROBABLY USED TO CONCEAL SOVIET GROUND FORCE WEAPONS DURING THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY PRODUCTION PHASES. THEY APPEAR TO BE USED TO HIDE GROUND FORCE WEAPONS BEING TRANSPORTED BETWEEN THE PRODUCTION PLANT AND WEAPONS TEST AREA FROM GROUND OBSERVATION AND TO A LESSER EXTENT, OVERHEAD OBSERVATION.

(TSR) THE LARGER OF THE TWO TRAILERS IS APPROXIMATELY [REDACTED] METERS AND HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AT TWO WEAPONS TEST FACILITIES AND ONE PRODUCTION PLANT. ROOF PANELS ON THE TRAILER AS WELL AS BOTH END PANELS CAN BE REMOVED IN VARIOUS COMBINATIONS TO MAKE THE ON/OFF LOADING OF THE WEAPON INTO/OUT OF THE TRAILER LESS DIFFICULT. THE SIZE AND WEIGHT CAPACITY OF THE TRAILER, WHICH IS PULLED BY A PRIME MOVER, WOULD ALLOW MOST SOVIET GROUND FORCE WEAPONS TO BE CARRIED INSIDE THE TRAILER. DURING THE 1979 TO 1981 TIME FRAME, UP TO TWO OF THESE TRAILERS WERE OBSERVED AT VOLGOGRAD FAC 2 TEST [REDACTED], A GROUND FORCE WEAPONS TEST FACILITY. BMD AIRBORNE AMPHIBIOUS COMBAT VEHICLES WERE TESTED AT VOLGOGRAD DURING 1979 AND COULD HAVE BEEN THE VEHICLES TRANSPORTED IN THE TRAILERS. THE LOCATION OF THE PRODUCTION FACILITY FOR THE BMD HAS NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED [REDACTED]

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(TSR) THE 11-METER TRAILER HAS ALSO BEEN IDENTIFIED AT SVERDLOVSK ARTILLERY TEST RANGE [REDACTED] AND AT SVERDLOVSK GUIDED MISSILE PRODUCTION PLANT 8 [REDACTED] THE TRAILER WITH SLIDING ROOF PANELS AND BOTH END PANELS REMOVED WAS SEEN AT THE TEST RANGE ON [REDACTED] THE TRAILER WAS SEEN AT THE PRODUCTION PLANT WITH ROOF PANELS AND ONE END PANEL REMOVED. THE SVERDLOVSK ARTILLERY TEST RANGE SERVES AS A TEST FACILITY FOR THE GROUND FORCE WEAPONS PRODUCED AT SVERDLOVSK PLANT 8 WHICH INCLUDE THE SA-4 TRANSPORTER-ERECTOR-LAUNCHER (TEL), THE SA-6 TEL, AND PROBABLY THE SA-11 TRANSPORTER-ERECTOR-LAUNCHER AND RADAR (TELAR).

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(TSR) A SECOND TYPE OF TRAILER HAS ALSO BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE SVERDLOVSK AREA. THIS SMALLER TRAILER IS APPROXIMATELY [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ALTHOUGH THIS TRAILER HAS NOT BEEN OBSERVED WITH ROOF OR END PANELS REMOVED, A CAPABILITY SIMILAR TO THE LARGER TRAILER IS PROBABLE. BECAUSE OF THE TRAILER'S SMALLER SIZE, THE VARIETY OF GROUND FORCE WEAPONS THAT COULD BE CARRIED IN THE TRAILER IS MORE LIMITED. THIS TRAILER HAS BEEN SEEN OCCASIONALLY AT THE MILITARY PRODUCTION SECTION OF THE SVERDLOVSK ELECTRICAL PLANT URALEKTROTYAZHMASH [REDACTED] AND AT THE SVERDLOVSK ARTILLERY TEST RANGE SINCE AT LEAST 1977. TRACKED VEHICLE CHASSIS WHICH ARE PROBABLY PRODUCED AT THE PLANT MAY BE TRANSPORTED BY THE TRAILER TO AND FROM THE TEST AREA.

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(TSR) ANALYST'S COMMENTS -- THE USE OF A SPECIAL-PURPOSE TRAILER TO CONCEAL VARIOUS TYPES OF GROUND FORCE WEAPONS UNDER RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SOVIET DOCTRINE OF MASKIROVKA, IN WHICH VARIOUS TECHNIQUES INCLUDING CONCEALMENT ARE USED BY THE SOVIET MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX TO DENY INFORMATION TO THEIR ADVERSARIES ON NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS. THE

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3. (S)

COORDINATES 48-52-55N 44-35-33E (1)
COORDINATES 56-52-13N 60-37-07E (2)
COORDINATES 57-04-00N 60-42-30E (3)

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